

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested.

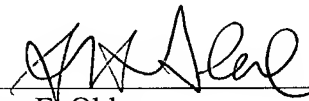
Claims 1-8 and 10-12 remain in the case.

These claims are considered allowed by the Examiner, if the objection thereto has been removed. Such has been done herewith.

Accordingly, it is submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance and which is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Norman F. Oblon
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 24,618

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 08/03)
SHB/bu

Samuel H. Blech
Registration No. 32,082